Dear Emory,

11/12/87

Your persistence is truly commendable! As is your thoughtfulness, for which thanks. If we have to refer to what you sent, I'm keeping it as you sent it behind my Oswald-Keesler file.

It was, in my day at least, true that men were assigned to military units for almost bookkeeping purposes only so I believe he was never in that unit. Note that when he left Keesler the record show he was assigned to Marines HQ in DC but he was never there. That was for reassignment.

It seems to me that while the original Marines testimony before the Commission may have been based on less than a full search for Oswald's records, at some point, if only for historical and cover-the-ass purposes all would have been at one point. I don't recall whether Folson said he had 100% of the records.

So, when in touch with HQ, why not ask for a search of their historical archives?

We know that originally HQ had so little the Oswald records there did not include what HQ assumed he had, security clearance. They assumed confidential. The FBI looked that them and reported no security clearance. We don't know if they would regard what we do as logical, but it would seem that pretty soon they sought all records of everywhere Oswald had been. What they did with them is the ques ion.

I don't think these would have been essential to the action that changed the kind of discharge Oswald had but asking there might help some.

If your letter asking about Powers gets no answer, why not write him at that address and ask that your letter be forwarded? If you didn't get it back it was delivered. I don't know anyone in that part of Calif. but maybe someone there can locate him for you.

Another approach: why not ask the Marines, HQ, for all records relating to the identification, location, study and forwarding of records on or about LHO? They must have kept a file. Include Folson in your request, his records. Such papers might be filed elsewhere and not surface on search. Like under the Commission.

Remember also, that while the Commission's work does not indicate that any investigation was made after the alleged defection, there certainly had to have been one. So, another item for FOIA request. The records of that investigation might hold the other missing records.

Again thanks, sincerely,

Harold

Harold Weisberg